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What Has the President Said to the Brotherhoods?

The newspapers have been allowed to print what President Wilson has said to the railroad presidents, but what he said to the railroad brotherhoods was in secret session.

The President shakes his finger in the faces of the railroad presidents and says that if there is a strike the responsibility will not be with him.

Why does he not add the simple truth that the responsibility for a strike is with the strikers?

The President pleads with the railroad presidents in the name of the business and welfare of the nation.

Why does he not plead with the railroad brotherhoods in the name of the business and welfare of the nation?

The railroad brotherhoods for years clamored for arbitration, but now admit the fear that arbitrators, no matter how chosen, would not accord their present demands. The brotherhoods say to the railroads, "Stand and deliver." The President of the United States does not intimate that a strike could be averted by a change of attitude on the part of the brotherhoods. He shakes his finger in the faces of the railroad presidents.

Fifty votes are as nothing compared with 400,000. That is how he seems to be reasoning in his singularly shortsighted way.

He does not seem to see that 400,000 votes are as nothing compared with 2,000,000. Otherwise he would be shaking his finger also at the brotherhoods.

The Roman Catholic Church in the United States.

In the United States the Roman Catholic Church has been compelled to solve problems unlike those forced on it elsewhere. Religious liberty, the absence of State support, with the consequent necessity of obtaining its revenues from voluntary contributors, have posed one set of questions. The heterogeneous population, composed of immigrants of numerous nationalities, many of them accustomed to rigid secular and clerical regulation in their native countries, and unprepared to exercise the self-restraint essential to democratic institutions, presented another. Jealousy and distrust springing from old world environments have complicated the situation. But in spite of these evident difficulties, the influence of which is observable in all parts of the nation, the Church has had a wonderful growth, and enjoys to-day a prosperity, material and spiritual, that is indicated, though not measured, by the convention now in session here.

To the non-Catholic this gathering offers an opportunity of informing himself on the processes and methods of the Church that is invaluable. Here are gathered, in common endeavor for a single cause, the highest ecclesiastical dignitaries, princes of the Church, priests and laymen, from all parts of the country; and in their deliberations as these are revealed in the official programme and developed in the discussions it will be found that no subject of interest and concern to the public has been slighted or overlooked. The clerics and laymen who compose this convention give their lively attention to every project that affects the welfare of the population. Whatever the subject may be—the character of theatrical productions, the quality of marriage and divorce laws, the educational enterprises of Church and of the State; in every relation of human life the alert and vigorous intelligence of a great body of men and women subscribing to a common faith will be found at work, striving at all times for the improvement of conditions in the community.

The observer will find that the Church, besides its spiritual efforts, and what may be called its sectarian activities, promotes and supports a multitude of movements that affect its own communicants directly in their daily engagements, and react in a degree frequently ignored on those outside its fold. In the prosecution of what, for want of a better term, may be described as secular work, to distinguish it from purely religious pursuits, a remarkable organization has been built up, by which the prin-

cipal mission of this mighty engine is served. In the development of this patience, wisdom and devotion have been conspicuous; and the reward for the ceaseless application of these qualities to the antagonistic elements that compose the membership of the Church is the power and authority it has attained without the assistance of State grants or the aid of discriminatory legislation.

The Strange Disposition of German Diplomacy.

In the latest White Book issued by the Government at Washington a number of documents dealing with the recall of Captain von Papez and Captain Boy-Ed are included. They reveal a curious situation in the capital between the date of the original notification by Secretary Lansing that the attaches were no longer persons grata and compliance with the request for the termination of their official status.

Secretary Lansing informed Ambassador Brenkfort orally on December 1, 1915, that Boy-Ed and von Papez were no longer acceptable to the United States as naval and military attaches. On December 4 this information was repeated, in a formal letter, in which the circumstances of the preceding conversation were recalled. But Boy-Ed and von Papez did not retire; they remained at their posts, presumably performing their official duties, for nearly a week, or until December 10, when Secretary Lansing again wrote to the Ambassador, using this strong, if restrained, language:

"As ten days have passed without the request of this Government being complied with and without communication from you on the subject, other than your personal letter of the 5th inst., which in no way affected the fact that the two attaches were unacceptable or presented a ground for delay, I feel compelled to direct your attention to the expectation of this Government that its request would be immediately granted."

"I trust, my dear Mr. Ambassador, that you appreciate the situation and will urge upon your Government a prompt compliance with the request in order that this Government may not be compelled to take action without awaiting the recall of the attaches, an action which this Government does not desire to take, but will be forced to take unless the Imperial Government meets the express wish of this Government without further delay. I need not impress upon your Excellency the desirability of avoiding a circumstance which would increase the embarrassment of the present situation."

On the day on which this letter was sent, Ambassador Brenkfort wrote to Secretary Lansing in answer to the note of December 4:

"I have the honor to inform your Excellency that his Majesty the Emperor and King has been most graciously pleased to recall the naval attaché of the Imperial Embassy, Captain Boy-Ed, and the military attaché, Captain von Papez."

Ten days elapsed from the date of the oral notification, six days passed after the written notice was served on the embassy, before his Majesty the Emperor and King was "most graciously pleased" to recall his unacceptable officers; and that recall came only on the day on which the Secretary of State expressed the hope that this Government would not be compelled, by further delay, "to take action without awaiting the recall of the attaches," an action which "this Government did not desire to take, but would be forced to take unless the Imperial Government met the express wish of this Government without further delay."

The delay of ten days is made notable by the extraordinary status and immunities enjoyed by the attaches. That three notifications of this Government's desire with regard to them should have been necessary to produce the response that one ought to have brought is amazing; and the coincidence of the two notes of December 10 cannot escape attention.

Did the memory of Dr. Deans, ill the German Embassy from December 1 until December 10?

Summer Music.

The experiment of the generous citizens who have put within the reach of New Yorkers a series of concerts of high class music this summer will be watched with interest. It has been asserted for years that there was a warm weather demand for such diversions, but efforts to satisfy it always failed to win popular support necessary to permanent success.

The belief that among the citizens of New York who remained in town a desire existed to hear concerts of what, to distinguish it from the merely popular, might be called classical music, dates from an earlier period of the city's social history. It is necessary to return to the days of Theodore Thomas to find any record of a summer season of serious music which did not bring financial loss to its promoters. So there have been in recent years only occasional concerts by the city orchestras outside the musical season.

Now public spirited citizens have made it possible for New Yorkers to hear excellent concerts twice a week. In general the soloists as well as the conductors are superior to those who have previously been associated with such undertakings. Musically there has been every quality to please the audiences supposed to await this style of entertainment in the summer. There has been, moreover, an appearance of prosperity, and the number of auditors has been enough to suggest

that the concerts may really respond to a need.

No definite conclusion on this subject can be reached until the final results are known. If there has been no adequate financial response to the efforts of the sponsors, the season will probably not be attempted again. There will be no cause for criticism of those who are this summer responsible for the attempt. Lack of satisfactory support from those for whose benefit the concerts were undertaken is the best possible evidence that they are not needed. Failure to patronize them can only be taken to indicate that they are not desired by a sufficient number of citizens to make the labor worth while.

It is to be hoped, however, that complete success may be the reward of the experiment. Many of the winter patrons of serious music are assuredly here. It is not possible that the warm weather robs them of a taste for music so well rendered as it has been at these concerts. The educational value of the series should enlist the support of all lovers of good music.

Benevolence of the Packing Trade.

The benevolent meat packers who, in their generosity, have been permitting the public to buy the paper wrappings of their products at the rate of 22 cents a pound, have been thwarted in their liberality by the United States courts, which have held that they shall no longer sell wood pulp at the price of ham.

Thus the crude and unimaginative processes of the law interrupt the poetical practices of these national benefactors and attempt to reduce them to the level of mere vendors of foodstuffs, a plane on which, according to their own testimony, the magnitude of their transactions and ingenuity of their processes make it distasteful for them to stand.

It is cause for rejoicing that these philanthropists, exercising the keen sense of propriety and instinct for popularity that have always been characteristic of their conduct, are to appeal for protection to the higher courts; and they must be aware of the degree of interest with which a public composed almost exclusively of ultimate consumers will watch the progress of their efforts to reestablish their privilege of selling waste paper at the price of cured meat.

Undersea Trade With Germany.

If the cargo carrying submarine Bremen left a German port on August 14, as a despatch from Norfolk says, she should arrive on this side of the Atlantic about the last day of the month, judging from the voyage of the pioneer Deutschland. The Deutschland was sixteen days coming across. Her captain, by the way, said upon his arrival at Baltimore that the effect of such voyages as he had made would be to break British blockade of the sea. In a way that is true, speaking in a commercial sense; for if a fleet of Deutschlands and Bremens should be launched or acquired by Germany she would ultimately be able to buy from the United States a great deal of the material needed to carry on the war against the Entente Allies.

What a travesty the old fashioned blockade would be if submarine cargo carriers could dive under patrolling warships on the surface and emerge in home harbors! Perhaps the system would suffer from the disadvantages under which it was operated, but raw materials entering into the manufacture of ammunition could be imported in sufficient quantities. How could the traffic be stopped or seriously checked except by enemy submarines, with eyes, as it were, under water—a style of craft that has not yet been invented?

With the coming of the Bremen it is reported that commercial submarines are to be constructed by an American firm for the German Government. The largest will be 5,000 tons. They can be laid down and completed in a few months. If the war is to last another year it would be possible for Germany to carry on a regular transatlantic service, subject to interruption, of course, by the British navy. After the Deutschland's achievement it seems feasible enough; but two years ago the Atlantic passage by airship would have been no more wonderful than the blockade running and long voyages by cargo carriers under as well as on the surface of the sea. Whatever can be accomplished by the genius of the German Government in renewing commercial relations with America, there should be no difficulty in restoring the mail service. That alone would be a great triumph for the undersea boat.

He Got His Men.

Three years ago two missionaries were killed in northern Canada near the Arctic Circle. From somewhere in that far north country a report yesterday reached Ottawa that the murderers had been caught and were being brought out for trial.

News of crime travels slowly in that wild, barren winter land; but when, several weeks after the death of the missionaries, the meagre details reached one of the stations of the Northwestern Mounted Police patrol an inspector was sent to find the murderers. There is a tradition among the men of this force that assigned to such a mission you either get your men or you do not come back.

The inspector finally traced the crime to a tribe of Eskimos which had an evil reputation in the north. Some of the members were being hunted for the murder in 1912 of Henry Vin-

cent Radford, the American explorer, and his companion, George Street, a Canadian. Peaceful Eskimos living along the coast warned the inspector and his assistants that an attempt to go inland would mean death. They told of the murder by this tribe of two prospectors whom they had mistaken for police. There would be almost a thousand of the tribe sworn to resist the arrest of any one of their number against the three or four men that the inspector could muster. TAPALUC, the guide of Radford and Street, could not be persuaded to return to the land of the murderers, and no members of any neighboring tribe could be induced to undertake such a hazardous journey.

The story of those three years of search in the Arctic cold, of trailing by dog sledges and snowshoes, battling a way through storms, across barren blizzard swept wastes and among a murderous hostile people, if ever told, would be an absorbingly interesting narrative of adventure. Three years is a long time for such a continuous struggle against obstacles; no weakening could finally have brought out his men.

Heavy Demand and Shortage of Supply.

Heavy demand and shortage of supply caused the rise in the price of gasoline, the Federal investigators announce. In these days of economic fallacies it does seem too bad that it could not be determined that the higher price was caused by light demand and increased supply.

HAVANA, Cuba, Aug. 22.—One man was killed and several men were wounded early today in Cienfuegos in a political riot between partisans of SANTIAGO RAMON Y CAJAL and FRANCISCO CARRERA, rival candidates for Mayor.—The news of yesterday.

How far the Americanization of Cuba has advanced?

It is now reported from Tella, Chihuahua, that VILLA is really dead and was poisoned. The presumption, of course, is that death claimed the bandit long ago; otherwise, his disappearance from the limelight cannot be accounted for. If, however, the manner of his taking off is not satisfactorily proved, PANCHO VILLA will ultimately become a myth of history.

They dismissed school in Washington the other day, but even there some must work while the fortunate play, as witness:

"Mr. MANN—Oh, certainly, I think myself can take two weeks' vacation now if they would, of course some of us will have to remain here to watch the other side. I shall have to stay here to watch the minority leader, and he will have to stay here to watch me, and perhaps with a little help, but others can go home for a vacation of two weeks at least."

We are quoting from the Congressional Record of August 18.

No less than 2,559 British officers killed, wounded or missing in the last week in July. Such is the terrible price the modern offensive exacts from a service with the tradition that regimental officers must always lead the way. It is magnificent, but it is not scientific warfare.

I say that the battle of Vera Cruz between American soldiers and Mexican forces in which more than 100 Mexicans were killed and more than 100 Americans were slain, was war.—The Hon. RALPH D. COLE.

Not to a professor of psychology.

It is unlikely that other groups of believers will send an ultimatum to Rumania. She is mobilized, she is efficient, she is ready, and she cannot be coerced.

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hundredth year. When the quantity of useless and worse than useless printed matter that came under his professional observation is considered, the whole tale of his years is astonishing. Fortunately for him he did not expose himself to intellectual risks of librarianship until he had reached years of discretion.

A DRY DILEMMA.

Just What Does the Increase in Revenue From Liquor Signify?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: When the report of the commissioner for the fiscal year 1915 showed a falling off in the receipts from taxes on alcoholic beverages the fact was seized upon by the prohibitionists as proof that prohibition was beginning to prohibit.

The report of the commissioner for the fiscal year 1916 shows that although statewide prohibition laws went into effect on January 1, 1916, in the States of Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Oregon, South Carolina and Washington, with a total population of 9,000,000, there has been an increase of \$2,000,000 in the taxes paid on distilled and fermented liquors.

If prohibition was the cause of the decline in the receipts from liquor taxes in 1915, was the addition of 9,000,000 population to prohibition territory the cause of the increase in 1916?

The prohibitionists may reply that the increased consumption of liquors was due to the greater prosperity of the country during the past fiscal year. This is doubtless true, but what becomes of their last year's argument, that the decrease in liquor taxes was not due to the fact that the prohibitionists had not yet had time to the spread of prohibition in various States?

NEW YORK, August 21.

THE MONTREAL MELON.

Best There Is, Says Correspondent Who Has Eaten It.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The article on melons was fine, but why waste time extolling the virtues of that vegetable? The best is the Montreal melon, which blithely pursues its prey both on the outskirts and within the purlieus of Montreal.

I was there for about four years and made a study of the subject. On St. Catherine street I have seen at a green grocer's stall a melon outwardly of five-cent appearance, priced at one or even two dollars. At a hotel the honorarium would be \$5. Once by mischance I ordered a whole one, and the waiter said something like "vous de V.": of course he was cordial. After this experience I used to buy a small sector of a melon for 30 cents, or else go some dark night behind the mountain, relying on low visibility, and get them in the natural way. Ah! but they are superb.

RICHARD P. HEAD.

NEW YORK, August 22.

A WARPER OF THE PUBLIC.

How the Occupant of the White House Might Have Handled the Crisis.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: You can imagine the following:

"THE WHITE HOUSE, AUG. 15, 1916. Messrs. Garrison, Lee and others: The matters now in dispute between the United States and the railroads of the country must be settled by neutral arbitrators, after all the facts have been presented to them."

The railroad managers assert that your requests are excessive and imprudent, and that they will place their road on the verge of insolvency. I cannot claim expert knowledge of these matters, and would ask that they be referred to the Interstate Commerce Commission or another competent to deal with them.

Meanwhile, no threat of a general strike or any other form of coercion, or the powers of the Federal Government to suppress and punish it.

Such a state of affairs, brought about by the simultaneous action of the men you represent, would seem to imply a conspiracy that would not only be illegal, but would seem to be a violation of the laws of the country. I would call forth all the powers of the Federal Government to suppress and punish it.

The effort would be to cause such widespread disaster in a time of profound peace and general prosperity that it cannot be thought of. There has been nothing to do but to call forth all the powers of the Federal Government to suppress and punish it.

And this letter would have been sent, regardless of its "vote-getting" qualities.

JOSEPH D. HOLMES.

NEW YORK, August 22.

Are the Brotherhood Chiefs Acting in Restraint of Trade?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: As to the settlement of railroad strike, as a last resort arrest the leaders of the four orders of railroad men in restraint of trade. Could this be done?

E. M. O.

HACKENSACK, N. J., August 22.

Terrible Shock to Sensitive Citizens of an Illinois Town.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Mrs. M. A. BAKER, of Chicago, Ill., was killed by a train on Saturday night last.

Mrs. BAKER was a woman of twenty-two years of age, and was a native of Illinois. She was a member of the Chicago Y. W. C. A., and was a very popular woman in her community.

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THE POLITICIAN IN A NATIONAL CRISIS.

Some time ago two out of every nine men employed by the railways of the United States informed the railway heads that they must have a raise in pay. They had been working ten hours a day. They said they did not object to that, but hereafter they wanted eight hours to be paid for as a day's work. The extra two hours were to be paid for at half as much again as the day rate.

The railway managers jumped out of their skins at the demand. They said that they could not afford it. The men replied that they must have an eight hour day.

There was a dispute about this. The railway managers said they would not give in to the demand. They said they would not give in to the demand. They said they would not give in to the demand.

If they did not get what they wanted, said the trainmen, they would strike. When the railway managers refused to give in to the demand, they simply repeated that they would strike if they did not get their kind of eight hour day.

The railway managers from the outset offered to arbitrate the matter. The trainmen from the outset refused to arbitrate. They said they would not arbitrate. They said they would not arbitrate.

The two sides could not agree and a strike became imminent. Mediation failed. To avert a strike the President of the United States intervened. He called the railway managers and the trainmen's executives to Washington.